

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 1, with the following paragraph:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/610,416 filed on July 5, 2000, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/387,953 filed September 1, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,287,217, which is a divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/040,887 filed March 18, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,083,119, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/631,613 filed April 10, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,803,831, which is a continuation-in-part of (1) U.S. Application Serial No. 08/591,046 filed on January 25, 1996 now abandoned; and (2) U.S. Application Serial No. 08/542,793 filed on October 13, 1995 now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/070,510 filed June 1, 1993, now abandoned.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 23, line 12, with the following paragraph:

The preferred composition for the inner cover layer may comprise up to 100 weight percent of a non-ionomeric thermoplastic or thermoset material including a thermoplastic polyester polyurethane such as B.F. Goodrich Company's Estane® polyester polyurethane X-4517 or a reaction-injection molded material such as one or more of the Bayflex RIM polyurethanes from Bayer. The non-ionomeric thermoplastic material may be blended with a soft ionomer. For example, polyamides blend well with soft ionomer. According to B.F. Goodrich, Estane® X-4517 has the following properties as set forth in Table 6:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 25, line 25, with the following paragraph:

If plastic products are produced by combining components that are preformed to some extent, subsequent failure can occur at a location on the component, e.g. the mantle layer, which is along the seam or parting line of the mold. Failure can occur at this location because this interfacial region is intrinsically different from the remainder of the component or layer and can be weaker or more stressed. The present invention is believed to provide for improved durability of a golf ball mantle layer by providing a uniform or "seamless" mantle in which the properties of the mantle material in the region along the parting line are generally the same as the properties of the mantle material at other locations on the mantle, including at the poles. The improvement in durability is believed to be a result of the fact that the reaction mixture is distributed uniformly into a closed mold. This uniform distribution of the injected materials substantially eliminates knit-lines and other molding deficiencies which can be caused by temperature difference and/or reaction difference in the injected materials. The process of the invention results in generally uniform molecular structure, density and stress distribution as compared to conventional injection-molding processes.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 39, line 5, with the following paragraph:

Moreover, in alternative embodiments, the inner and/or outer cover layer formulation may also comprise up to 100 wt % of a non-ionomeric thermoplastic or thermoset material including a thermoplastic polyester polyurethane such as B.F. Goodrich Company's Estane® polyester polyurethane X-4517 or a reaction-injection molded material such as one or more of the Bayflex RIM polyurethanes from Bayer. The non-ionomeric thermoplastic material may be blended with a soft ionomer. For example, polyamides blend well with soft ionomer. The properties for Estane® X-4517 were previously noted.